

The Beacon

A weekly email newsletter from
Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church
Serving Bainbridge Island and Northern Kitsap County



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 12 Issue 2 / January 14, 2022

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Upcoming Services

Embracing the Interdependent Web of Life

Sunday January 16th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Service on Zoom

Fran Korten, Speaker
Mike Cox, Worship Associate

For many of us, the UUs' 7th principle is the one we most easily remember and cite. But what does it actually mean to us? In this service, we'll look at how our 7th principle relates to ourselves, our culture, our Earth, and our future.

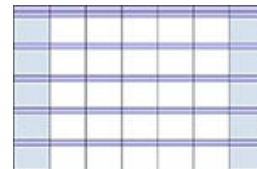
The Minimum Wage Machine

Sunday January 23rd
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Service on Zoom

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

Self Taught Engineer and Conceptual Artist Blake Fall-Conroy is known for creating works that touch on the socio-economic aspects of our lives. In this service we will reflect on one such work of art titled "The Minimum Wage Machine" and consider our own relationship to labor.

Current Week Calendar and Links



Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.

To view our detailed calendar [click here](#). Then click on the event titles for more information.

Sunday January 16th
10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship Service
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)

Immediately After Service Coffee Hour
[Virtual Gathering Link](#)
Use passcode 1959 if required
Or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

Martin Luther King Jr Celebration
12:00 p.m. Virtual Presentation
[Virtual Zoom Webinar Link](#)
1:45 p.m. Winslow Way March
2:30 p.m. Rally at Winslow Green Gazebo

Monday January 17th
Martin Luther King Jr Day
12:00 p.m. Special screening of "Selma"

Thursday January 20th
7:00 p.m. Program Council
[Virtual Meeting Link](#)
Meeting ID: 973 0084 2619
Passcode: 294347
Phone if needed: 253-215-8782

Saturday January 22nd
2:00 p.m. Faithful Practices Reading Group
[Virtual Meeting Link](#)



Honoring Martin Luther King Jr

The Bainbridge Island community will honor and celebrate the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. on Sunday afternoon with a special Zoom webinar and public march down Winslow Way from the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art to a rally at the Gazebo in Winslow Green. Registration is required for the 12:00 p.m. webinar [here](#).

Gathering in the plaza in front of the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art at 1:45 p.m., celebrants will then honor the memory of Dr. King with a socially-distanced and masked march down Winslow Way to the Winslow Green. Featuring singing, drumming, and call-and-response chanting, the march will be an energetic prelude to the celebratory 2:30 p.m. rally on Winslow Green.

On Monday, the City of Bainbridge Island and its Race Equity Advisory Committee will commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a special screening of "Selma", the film chronicling Dr. King's historic campaign to secure equal voting rights with a march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

The movie will be shown at 12:00 p.m. at Bainbridge Cinemas, located at 403 Madison Ave N, and will be free to the public. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination will be required, and theater seating will be socially distanced.

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Path Forward for Next Several Weeks

The year is ending as it started — with a dangerous virus spiking in our area. This time it's Omicron and it's on fire around the country. After consultation with medical experts; evaluating the rates of infection and positivity in Kitsap County; reviewing the UUA guidelines; and consulting with members of the Congregation, the Board of Trustees has decided on the following path forward for the month of January.

1. All services will be via zoom for the month of January.
2. Cedars Center will be closed to meetings unless the organizer receives authorization from Reverend Zackrie.

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with compassion
Love without judgment*



**Cedars UU Church is a
Welcoming Congregation
and Green Sanctuary**



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Service Follow Up

This past Sunday we gathered on zoom for an exploration on our relationship to technology and a discussion about Sun Yuan and Peng Yu's work "Can't Help Myself". If you missed this gathering, you can view the [recording here](#).

In addition, if you would like to learn more about the artists Sun Yuan and Peng Yu consider watching this [Artist Profile](#) video.

Be a part of Worship at Cedars

As we prepare to enter the fall and gear back up for the program year, we are looking for individuals ready to help with the creation of weekly worship. There are a few important roles that we are hoping to fill and find people willing to join the rest of the team in meaning making work we do.

Preaching: Once a month Rev. Zackrie is away from Cedars, and we need people willing to preach and lead services on these dates. This is your chance to share your thoughts on a topic with the rest of the community. Preaching can also provide you with a chance

3. For committees, church-related meetings, and classes please consider either virtual meetings or outdoor venues.

4. Confirm booster status with all those who have verified vaccinations to prepare for possible in-person services in February.

Lastly, as a reminder, the UUA has four points for congregations to follow during these times.

- Root decisions in the values of consent and inclusiveness.
- Follow the science.
- Go slow and be flexible.
- Be realistic with expectations of ourselves and others.

We agree with these principles and ask that people be respectful, responsible, and flexible as we deal with yet another wave. Our goal is to be together as a religious community, but to do it safely during these difficult times.

We will continue to monitor the situation and provide frequent updates over the next several weeks.

In Peace,
The Cedars Board of Trustees: **Mike Cox, Carol Ann Davidson, Herb Hethcote, Jeff Philip, Susan Shaffer, Kassia Sing and Robyn Teske**

Congregational Meeting: January 30

Please mark your calendars for our semi-annual **Congregational Meeting on January 30th at 10:45AM**. The Cedars Board of Trustees will host a virtual service with an all-congregation meeting to follow on Zoom. Cedars has much to celebrate and be grateful for, given the challenges that many churches have faced during the pandemic. We will present a mid-year financial report and update members and friends on the current state of programs, strengths and challenges; there are no issues and/or topics for members to vote upon, so this is informational only. Let's work together to meet these challenges and sustain and nurture our community in 2022.



Sad News

It is with sadness that I write to inform you of the death this week of **Pat Sampson**.

to deepen your own understanding on a topic as you research, write, and reflect in preparation.

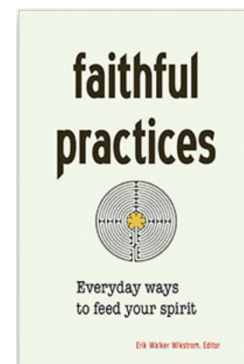
Worship Tech Team: As we continue to navigate the presence of COVID-19 and begin conceptualizing what comes next with our online presence, we need people to assist with the technology side of things. Currently we hope to find a few individuals to help with recording and video editing. We also need help running the sound system at in-person services. No prior experience is necessary, but it does help to have a familiarity with technology and a willingness to learn.

Worship Associates: In this role you get a chance to work with Rev. Zackrie and other service leaders to reflect on a topic and share your voice with others. This is a great opportunity for people to develop as a public speaker or experiment with creative ways of conveying ideas. In addition, being a worship associate is a great way to become more widely known within the Cedars community.

If you are interested in joining the worship team in any of these roles or have questions, please email **Rev. Zackrie** at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Faithful Practices Reading Group

How's your prayer life? What spiritual practices ground you? Where do you find meaning throughout your week?



If you find yourself struggling to answer these questions, you're not alone. Many people struggle to talk about the spiritual dimensions of their life. If this describes you or you're simply interested in learning more about spiritual practices from a UU perspective, consider joining Rev. Zackrie for a group reading of the book "Faithful Practices: Everyday Ways to Feed your Spirit."

This group is meeting on zoom from 2-3:30 p.m. on the following dates:
January 22nd
February 19th

Sources of Our Faith: Spiritual Reflection Group

Starting in February through May, the Cedars Community is invited to join Rev. Zackrie for a regular time of reflection on the sources of our Unitarian Universalist faith. This gathering will take place twice a week on zoom and is a time for participants to engage in thoughtful reflection on a variety of readings found in the book "[Sources of Our Faith: Inspirational](#)

Pat joined Cedars along with her husband Dean in 2011 and has been a vibrant part of this congregation since then. Despite prolonged health challenges, she will be remembered for the courage with which she faced life as well as the joy and laughter that glowed around her.

At this time, I ask the entire Cedars Community to hold Dean and the whole Sampson family in your love and prayers. Service details are yet unknown, but I will work to communicate them in the coming days.

If you find yourself needing someone to talk to during this emotional time, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or a member of the pastoral care team.

Rev. Zackrie

OWL Postponed

After careful deliberation and a Herculean effort by the Cedars Board of Trustees and Reverend Zackrie to create a safe environment for OWL to take place, the Facilitators have decided to **postpone** OWL until we have a better handle on Covid. Two key conditions for OWL success is freedom to interact without concern for spacing limitations and meeting in a variety of comfortable environments for weekly sessions and weekend retreats. These conditions ensure an environment where the youth will quickly bond and feel comfortable with the content shared in OWL.

We believe that if possible, a Fall start date will give us time to offer the program in a more relaxed fashion and allow us more options for comfortable meeting spaces.

Thank-you,

OWL Facilitation Team

Nancy Philip
David Barnes
Gregory Cook
Amy Johnson
Arlene Wade



Parent Chalice Circle Forming

Would you like to meet regularly with other Cedars parents?

Our Parent Chalice Circle is a new

venture of the Cedars **Faith Formation**

Readings," written by Kathleen Rolenz.

Folks should feel to attend one or all the sessions as your schedule permits. A complete schedule for both sessions of this reflection group can be found below.

Thursdays @ 10am and Saturdays @ 2pm on the following dates:

2/3 & 2/5
3/3 & 3/5
3/10 & 3/12
3/24 & 3/26
4/7 & 4/9
4/14 & 4/16
4/21 & 4/23
5/5 & 5/7
5/12 & 5/14
5/26 & 5/28

For more information (or if you need help purchasing a copy of the book), please contact Rev. Zackrie at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Show the World! Car Magnets Available



"Show the world all the love in your heart," is a quote from Carol King's song *Beautiful*. Attach a Cedars car magnet to your vehicle and "show the world" a path to our welcoming spiritual community – Cedars UU Church - that people might not have considered before. A Cedars car magnet can be yours for a \$25 donation via PayPal or Check.

Want more than one? If using PayPal through the Donate button on Cedars' website, select the "Car Magnet Event" donation option and make multiple donations of \$25 each. Our report from PayPal will show how many \$25 donations you made, and we will have that many car magnets for you. If donating by check, write the number of magnets you want in the "Memo" line at the bottom left of your check. If you decide to donate \$100, but want only one car magnet, just write "one magnet" on the Memo line.

To obtain your Cedars car magnet(s), you can see Jane Martin at Cedars Center from 2-4 pm on Mondays (1/17, 1/24 and 1/31). She will have them ready for you just inside the door of Cedars Center, based on our list from PayPal and those who paid by check. (Bring cash or a check with you if you prefer that to mailing ahead.) If you cannot pick up your pre-ordered magnet(s), email **Jane at janemartin4569@gmail.com** and she will mail it/them to you.

Thank you for your continued support of our beloved Cedars community.

Super Supper Sign-Ups

Committee. The idea is to create a space where parents, grandparents, and caregivers can meet to share in the questions and experiences of nurturing faith formation in our children and in our own lives.

How can we support the spiritual lives of our children, teens, and young adults as they grapple with the day-to-day challenges of growing up as well as with big issue questions such as Covid, racism, climate change, politics, religion, reproductive justice, nuclear power, war?

We are meeting once a month and utilizing the UU Principles as touchstones and reference points for exploration.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

Social Justice Committee News

Greetings! My name is **Carol Ann Davidson** and I am the Board liaison to a new unified Social Justice Committee.

The past two years have been hard for many. It is easy to feel helpless given some of the challenges we are facing in the world. Working together, even in small ways, can help to bring a sense of purpose and integrity through living our values. It can also help to ease anxiety. Many of our congregants have expressed the desire to get back into the community and recommit to social justice work and your Board of Trustees agrees. It is time to begin again!

Prior to the pandemic, Cedars had a Social Action Committee that focused on community service and a Social Justice Committee that focused on education and outreach events.

At present, both committees have dissolved although Super Suppers continue to be supported by a few former committee members. The Cedars Board's vision is to revitalize our efforts with a newly formed Social Justice Committee that will join together with the Faith Formation and Green Sanctuary Committee members to plan a year in which Cedars recommits to social action projects and social justice work on Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap.

If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to **Carol Ann Davidson**.



You can be a Climate Changemaker!

Changemakers are energetic, ardent advocates for environmental values

making a world-changing difference, especially addressing the challenges of climate change.

Join them in taking an hour per week to call or

Cedars in partnership with Kol Shalom offers Super Supper dinners on the last Tuesday of each month. Super suppers are a free meal for those in need provided by members of the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council.

We now have a regular sign up for you to use each month so that all in our congregation have a chance to participate. Please consider signing up for one or more slots [here](#).

Thank you so much for continuing to help our neighbors in need!

Please contact **Penny Brewer** or **Emily Mockett** for more information.

Social Action News

Kitsap Immigration and Assistance Center has released the following:

We are paying close attention to the events unfolding in Afghanistan. Like all of you, we are heartbroken for the human beings caught in this humanitarian crisis, especially women, girls and LGBTQ+ Afghans.

The Puget Sound region will be receiving an influx of refugees There are numerous ways you can help with their resettlement. Both temporary and long-term housing is an urgent priority. Additionally, volunteers are needed to provide host homes, transport people from the airport, help settle people into apartments or assist with English language classes. Donations of household and other necessities, as well as cash donations are also needed.

Here are some committed organizations that are providing assistance, and all need volunteers and financial support.

The International Rescue Committee: This agency has a webpage with updated on-the-ground information, wish lists of items to purchase for "Welcome Kits" ([linked here](#)), and volunteer opportunities.

World Relief, Seattle: This agency is calling for volunteers and donations ([linked here](#)) and has information for the Afghan community as well as volunteers and partners.

The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service: This organization is seeking volunteers for airport pickups, mentoring, tutoring, and meal deliveries. They also need financial donations ([linked here](#)).

Jewish Family Services, Seattle: They have created an Amazon wish list for household items and other necessities ([linked here](#)). They are also looking for car seats and are accepting financial donations ([linked here](#)).

Afghan Health Initiative: This group provides access and support for physical/mental health services, as well as direct financial assistance

write friends, utilities, newspapers, and representatives with a bunch of other awesome people. They are present at <https://www.climatechangemakers.org/> and will welcome your joining with them.

For more information contact **Sandy Spears** at Sandy.Spears@att.net

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

See What Others Have Been Doing To Cope with Social Isolation

Our identity as a congregational community has been weakened by the COVID-19 pandemic, and one response has been to re-imagine virtual versions of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years.

Organized to provide opportunities to see and enjoy artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and capable congregation, those fairs helped us get to know and appreciate each other.

Please join the fun by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

Phil Hutcherson says "A snowy sunrise from one of my favorite spots on Murden Cove."



to newly arrived refugees ([linked here](#))

Afghan American Community of Washington: This group provides religious, cultural and social support to the Afghan community while they are adapting to American society ([linked here](#)).

Miles4Migrants accepts donated airline frequent flyer miles, credit card points and cash to help people reunite with loved ones or resettle in a new country after fleeing their own country imperiled by war, persecution or disaster ([linked here](#)).

Contact **Penny Brewer** for more information.

Join the Pastoral Care Team

Caring for one another is a core Unitarian practice, and the Cedars Pastoral Care Team is central to this ministry. We can offer a listening presence, connection, and hope to members of our Cedars community in times of need. We send cards, make phone calls, provide information resources and support family and friends who are caregivers.

The Team meets just once a month with our minister. We are now expanding the Team, and we would love to have you join us.

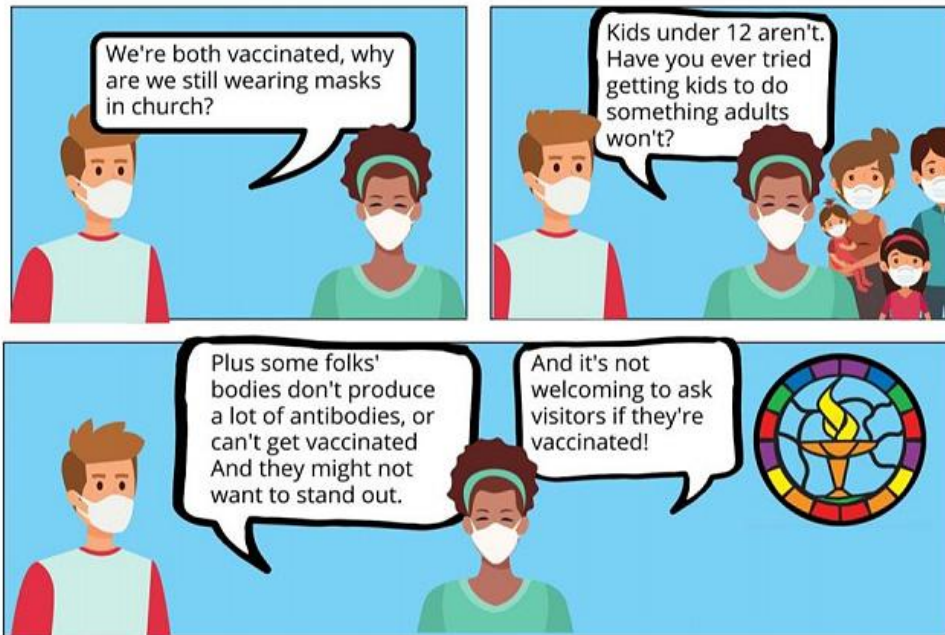
For more information about the Pastoral Care Team, please contact our office administrator, Carolyn Kerns at office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Pastoral Care Concerns

In discussion with the Pastoral Care Team, **Rev. Zackrie** confirmed that he would appreciate being informed if anyone in the Cedars community tests positive for Covid-19.

The information will remain confidential if the person so wishes, but Rev. Zackrie's awareness could help with contact tracing as well as determining what support and possible services could be offered by Pastoral Care Team members and perhaps the larger Cedars UU community as well.

MASKS IN CHURCH?



CONSENT: MASK EDITION!



Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to www.cedarsuuchurch.org. The newest issue is available on the Cedars website under News after 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Copies will also be available at Sunday Worship Services when they resume.

Member Directory

Members and Friends can easily search our online Church Directory for contact information. The link is located under the Connection Tab of the Cedars website

Services and Faith Formation

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Cedars Center
284 Madrona Way, NE #128

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

For an appointment, e-mail
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

Faith Formation Lead (Position Vacant)
faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373

Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator

Hours: 10:40 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday & Friday
Available remotely 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thursday
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Do you have an article, event, or announcement?

Send it to The Beacon **by Friday at 11:00 a.m. ONE WEEK BEFORE** the next Friday's newsletter (7 days in advance). See our [submission guidelines](#).

[Cedars UU Church \(website\)](#)

